

STRIKE OVER THE BIG PLUMS.

Many Politicians Claiming to Have Mr. Croker's Promises.

Friction Between the Five Powerful Chieftains of Tammany Hall.

Ex-City Chamberlain Richard Croker, when he returns from his long European visit next month, will have need of all the health and strength which he is said to have gained by his residence on the sunny slopes of the Riviera, for, if report is true he will have on hand one of the hardest undertakings which it was ever his fortune to grapple with.

A mulish spirit is said to have been generated and fostered in the organization until the very throne and scepter of the base are threatened.

Mr. Croker has been properly supposed to exercise supreme control in Tammany Hall, and his will has always been accounted law, whether the question at issue were one of party expediency or the disposition of municipal patronage.

This was the case, but it is said to be no longer and that there is a would-be usurper of the seat of power held by Mr. Croker in the person of Police Commissioner James J. Martin.

With Commissioner Martin in the rebellion against Mr. Croker's rule are said to be Mayor Grant, Public Works Commissioner Gilroy, Fire Commissioner Purroy and Corporation Counsel Clark.

The opposition to Mr. Croker has manifested itself in numerous ways and especially in the state which it is said has been made for appointments to the various offices to be made in the municipal service May 1.

The attempted turning down of the Steinkers had not an incident of it. Mr. Croker acknowledged by cable that he promised the support of the organization to secure a judgeship for Alfred Steinkers, but Commissioner Martin and Commissioner Gilroy, who were left to manage affairs in his absence, paid no attention to the promise; hence the secession of the leaders in the Tenth Assembly District.

Other promises of Mr. Croker, which it is said these gentlemen propose to set at naught, relate to the disposition of patronage on May 1.

Mr. Croker is said to have promised to the Republican John B. Smith reappointed Police Justice; to give John J. Sweeney, a Fire Commissioner and to dispose of the Jury Commission to another person.

These are said to have been absolute promises, and only one of them is to be kept, it is declared, and that is the one to appoint Sweeney to succeed Anthony Rickoff as Fire Commissioner.

In this connection, however, it is alleged that a new deal has been made whereby the support of Henry H. Purroy, Edward Kearney and Scannell was promised to the anti-Crocker combination in return for Scannell's appointment. This is said to have been done on the occasion of Mayor Grant's recent stay of two or three days in Saratoga, where the other gentlemen named were also at the time.

Before this arrangement the candidate for Fire Commissioner was said to be Percy Rockwell, who was set up by the anti-Crockerites to control with John Kelly for leadership in the Fourteenth District.

In the case of the Police Justiceship, to which the Martinites do not desire to have John B. Smith reappointed, Under Sheriff John B. Sexton, personal friend of the Mayor and brother-in-law of Corporation Counsel Clark, is said to be the candidate.

The other place, which it is claimed Mr. Croker promised to another, the Commissioner of Public Works, Bernard F. Martin, is said to be the candidate.

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UNION SQUARE'S BEAUTY SPOT

The Flower Market Open Until 8 O'Clock This Morning.

A Thousand People Enjoy the Scene During the Last Hour.

The Union Square Flower Mart was kept open till 8 o'clock for the first time this morning and forty florists were jubilant, while not less than one thousand people showed their appreciation of this early beauty show by visiting the market during that last hour, between 7 and 8 o'clock.

Not all were buyers, to be sure, but there were so many who did purchase from the brilliant groups of flowering plants that in every street in the neighborhood one might meet men, women and delighted children, proudly bearing away prizes secured at the new market, some of them carrying their arms full of the potted beauties.

Citizen George Francis Train was there to enliven the scene, and he was enthusiastic over the new institution.

"I will," said the Citizen, "New York has been behind the age. This is a great stride in her civilization. There were flower markets like this before the beginning of the ages, even in 'Darkest Africa.' New York is behindhand, but she will make up for lost time."

John Thorpe, of Pearl River, known as "the original chrysanthemum fiend," was at the market, and he was enthusiastic over the new institution.

"For years it has been possible for the market florist to come to the New York market only during the months of April, May and June, for the buyers of the later bloomers would not go down to that dirty place at Canal and West streets. Now let us make the market a permanent one."

"In July and August we have the asters in a glorious variety of hues from pure white to the deepest red, excochims, geraniums, fuchsias, sinias, 'youth and old age' and a host of bedding plants."

"Then, beginning in September, we have the glorious chrysanthemums, and 30,000 of them can be sold right here in Union Square every year."

"We can make Union Square a fame of blossoms till the snow flies. Let us do it."

At this point the old florist espied Citizen Train, and exclaimed:

"My dearest friend! I first met my wife at a lecture given by Mr. Train at Leicester, England—the best thing that ever happened to me. But to return to the mart. It is stimulating the love for flowers, and in a few weeks the houses that have no little window garden will be full of them."

Charles Dietz, the North Bergen florist, said: "Business is bound to be double what it could ever hope for at the old mart. Each new morning brings a larger crowd of buyers. Besides, our quarters were so cramped down there that we had to get a place to stand his wagon he had to drive to low ebb in the evening before, and that made a really long day of it."

"We worked an eighteen-hour day, and got a mighty scant living at that. Now we can come in at a decent hour after midnight, without fear of being crowded. Down there the florist did not dare to venture in such early hours of morning. Street cars did not run till past daylight."

New notes are added to the variety of the exhibition as the season advances. Next week there will be the calceolarias, or "lady's pockets" in brilliant colors, arbutus and other beauties.

One of the favorites with all classes is the moss rose, and they are generally sold off earlier than any other flower. This morning an EVENING WORLD reporter witnessed a pretty scene.

A beautiful girl came hurrying to the mart from a west side street. She dived from wagon to wagon, as if searching for something. At the very last stand they gave a little cry of delight, and both dropped on their knees before a cluster of three moss roses.

"How much?" one of them asked, fumbling at her purse.

"Sold, mum," laconically replied the florist.

"On dear!" came in a despairing voice.

"It's not yet half-past 6 o'clock. Well, I will have a moss rose if I have to come at 5 o'clock, and this beauty's cheeks reddened with eagerness."

There were a number of ladies at the mart at that hour this morning, but the pleasant sight was between 7 and 8, when shopmen and factory girls, on their way to work, passed through the flower mart, pausing to admire the lovely blossoms. Many of them had several books out of their way to see the display.

A few minutes before 8 o'clock about forty guests of the Everett House came across the Plaza for a visit to the new mart.

At 8 o'clock Park Police Officer Morrow and Commissioner McAviney were out in their glory, most of the forty electric light wagons having gone away absolutely empty, their whole stock having been sold.

STABBED IN THE SHOULDER.

Serious Result of a Butcher's Quarrel in an Abattoir.

Two young butchers had a fight in a west-side slaughter house this morning, and one stabbed the other so severely that another may be expected to die in a few days.

The fight occurred in Stern's abattoir, 423 West Park street, about 7:30 o'clock this morning, between Joseph Wade, of 433 West Thirty-sixth street, and Charles Kuntzmas, of 443 West Thirty-sixth street, employed in the slaughter.

Wade and Kuntzmas got into an altercation over a trivial matter, and a bandying ensued. Wade made a rush at Kuntzmas and made a vicious snarl at him with his butcher's knife.

The keen blade sank deep into Kuntzmas's left shoulder and he fell to the floor, the blood streaming from the wound.

The fight lasted but a few minutes, and he died from the wound.

Kuntzmas was taken to Roosevelt Hospital, where he lies in a critical condition.

HE WAS VERY COOLLY ROBBED.

Innocent Clerk Smith Says He Fell Among Thieves.

William Thomas, whom the police say is an ex-convict, was this morning committed by Justice O'Donnell, of Jersey City, charged with a daring robbery.

FOR GEN. GRANT'S MONUMENT

Programme for the Ground-Breaking Ceremonies in Riverside Park.

A Grand Military and Civic Display Planned for Next Monday.

Arrangements have all been completed for a magnificent ceremonial at the breaking of ground for the monument to General Ulysses S. Grant, in Riverside Park, next Monday.

The ground chosen for the monument is a fitting prospect that this initial movement to commemorate the career of one of America's greatest citizens will be an object lesson in patriotism.

The monument will be under the charge of the Grand Army of the Republic, the United States Army and Navy, and the volunteer soldiers participating, as well as large numbers of patriotic citizens, musical organizations and others.

Department Commander Freeman and his staff of the G. A. R. will report at noon Monday to the Marshal, Chief of Police, and the Mayor. The points of the order in this city and from other points will assemble in Riverside Park, according to orders of the day issued already, at 9 o'clock P. M.

Brooklyn posts will report to Marshal Corbett at 10 o'clock. The posts of the G. A. R. will report at 10 o'clock. The posts of the G. A. R. will report at 10 o'clock.

Regular troops from Governor's Island and the forts will be in the park at 10 o'clock. Regular troops from Governor's Island and the forts will be in the park at 10 o'clock.

The second half of the play was hurried to a close, and the police were notified that the Columbia boys had taken the house by storm.

After the curtain went down the boys left the house, making as much noise as possible. They began to sing in front of the theatre, but the arrival of the police caused a stampede.

The crowd scattered in all directions. One section, twenty-five strong, of which young Douglas was a member, amused themselves by turning over about two dozen ash barrels on Sixth avenue.

Douglas did not see Policeman Reardon when he pushed the last barrel and the officer placed him under arrest. He was taken to the Thirtieth street station-house and locked up.

At midnight his student friends got enough money together to bail him out, and this morning he was in his room at the Hotel Hamilton, 100 West 11th street.

The Judge eyed him closely, spoke to the clerkman at his side and said he would be sent to the city hall. He then Douglas released him to his friends, who were waiting the verdict.

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COLLEGE BOYS OUT ON A LARK

It Ends in a Police Court for One of Columbia's Sophomores.

Young Fred Douglas Pays \$3 for Kicking Over an Ash Barrel.

A young man, fashionably dressed, with his hands encased in tan-colored gloves, and wearing a derby hat of cinnamon hue, stood before Judge McMahon this morning in the Jefferson Market Police Court.

He was charged by Policeman Reardon, of the Twentieth Precinct, with having deliberately kicked over an ash barrel on Sixth avenue, between Thirty-second and Thirty-third streets, last night.